

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

December 4, 2007

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness has proclaimed December 3 – 7, 2007 as National Project Homeless Connect Week. This week of national events will unite government, community volunteers, nonprofit agencies, businesses, and faith-based organizations to create points of engagement with comprehensive services and housing for homeless individuals and families. Project Homeless Connect is a unique opportunity for homeless individuals and families to access services in a supportive community setting.

In recognition of this effort, the County, in collaboration with many of our community partners, is sponsoring Project Homeless Connect Day 2007 on December 6, 2007. Events are scheduled at the following four sites: Downtown Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, East Los Angeles, and Pomona. County departments, as well as local nonprofit agencies, the Cities of Los Angeles and Pomona, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Social Security Administration, and the Office of Veteran's Affairs, are participating in this event.

Project Homeless Connect Day is expecting to serve 3,000 homeless individuals. Each participant will receive a comprehensive needs assessment and then will be escorted by a volunteer to a variety of resource booths that can provide screening for

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benefit eligibility and connection with services. Homeless participants will also go through a discharge process prior to leaving the site to ensure that clients have a clear understanding of service opportunities and to confirm service eligibility, appointments, and referrals.

Project Homeless Connect Day 2007 will rely heavily on volunteers to serve as intake workers, escorts, food servers, and, discharge workers.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim December 6, 2007, as PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT DAY in Los Angeles County;
2. Direct County Departments of Public Social Services, Mental Health, Public Health, including Alcohol and Drug Program Administration, Internal Services, Public Defender, Probation, the Sheriff, and the Los Angeles County Police to participate in the PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT DAY 2007 and to work with the Chief Executive Office to ensure effective coordination for the event;
3. Request that all County departments encourage their staffs to volunteer on the day of the event and accommodate reasonable requests for personal leave by County staff that choose to volunteer;
4. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to coordinate with County departments regarding deployment of County staff who will work in both an official and voluntary capacity at the event.